

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 054301

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DRAFTED BY LA/DR:SESMITH:GAH

APPROVED BY LA/DR:HAHASAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS STATE 054301

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT:DISTRIBUTION OF IFB'S FOR IFICOOP LOAN-FINANCED
PROCUREMENT

REF: FRITZ/MCDONALD LETTER OF 9 FEBRUARY 1976

1. AID'S OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS (OSB) REQUIRES THREE COPIES OF IFB'S AND THREE COMPLETE SETS OF DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS PRIOR TO IFB ANNOUNCEMENT. HANDBOOK 11 ON COUNTRY CONTRACTING (CHAPTER 3, B4C(4)) STATES THAT AT LEAST ONE SET OF DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS MUST BE AVAILABLE AT A DESIGNATED ADDRESS IN THE U.S. FOR EXAMINATION BY PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS WHEN IFB'S ARE ISSUED TO U.S. FIRMS. IF DESIRED, THIS ADDRESS COULD BE AID/W, EITHER OSB OR LA/DR IF AN ADDITIONAL COPY IS MADE AVAILABLE. THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR IFB'S TO BE AVAILABLE AT A U.S. ADDRESS FOR DISTRIBUTION. HOWEVER, IF, AS REF LETTER PROPOSES, IFICOOP DISTRIBUTES THE IFB'S EXCLUSIVELY FROM SANTIAGO, A MINIMUM OF 15 ADDITIONAL DAYS TO ALLOW FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL WOULD HAVE TO BE ADDED TO THE NOTIFICATION TIME COUNTING FROM DATE OF PUBLICATION, BRINGING THIS PERIOD TO A MINIMUM OF 60 DAYS. (IT SHOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 054301

BE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM LENGTH OF

TIME AND THAT ADDITIONAL TIME WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN THESE CASES). IN THAT CASE, THE IFB SHOULD INCLUDE THE ADDRESS IN THE U.S. WHERE SPECIFICATIONS COULD BE EXAMINED.

2. USAID SHOULD KEEP IN MIND WHEN CONSIDERING THIS ALTERNATIVE THAT, PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT, OSB MUST MAKE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CHECK IN AID/W, AS WELL AS EXAMINE ANY CHARGES BEING MADE BY IFICOOP FOR THE SPECIFICATIONS. THIS PROCESS CAN BE LENGTHY, DEPENDING ON THE COMPLEXITY OF THE SPECIFICATIONS. THEREFORE, IFICOOP MAY CONSIDER THE ADDITIONAL 15 DAYS NOTIFICATION TIME REQUIRED AFTER REVIEW OF SPECS AND PUBLICATION TO BE TOO LENGTHY, AND MAY WISH TO PROVIDE FOR U.S. DISTRIBUTION OF IFB'S IN ORDER TO RETAIN A 45 - DAY NOTIFICATION PERIOD.

3. WHILE IN THE PAST OSB HAS ON OCCASSION HANDLED IFB DISTRIBUTION, THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO DO SO AT PRESENT BECAUSE OF STAFF LIMITATIONS. IF IFICOOP CHOOSES TO DISTRIBUTE IFB'S IN U.S. AND NO OTHER DISTRIBUTION SOURCE IS AVAILABLE, AID/W (OSB OR LA/DR) MIGHT BE ABLE TO HANDLE THEM AS A LAST RESORT IF, AS REF LETTER STATES, ONLY ONE OR TWO CASES WOULD BE INVOLVED IN 1976; AND IF THE REQUIRED COPIES OF THE IFB'S AND ANY AMENDMENTS TO BE DISTRIBUTED ARRIVE IN AID/W WITH SUFFICIENT TIME FOR ORDERLY REVIEW AND DISTRIBUTION. KISSINGER

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